

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A carrier for chromatography or a pre-treating carrier comprising a carrier material consisting essentially of aluminum oxide, silver oxide, or aluminum oxide with silver oxide; and at least one fatty acid having 1 to 40 carbon atoms, wherein the fatty acid is linked to the surface of the carrier material.

Claim 2 (Canceled).

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The carrier for chromatography or pre-treating the carrier of claim 1, wherein the carrier material is a porous carrier material or a non-porous carrier material.

Claims 4-5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The carrier for chromatography or pre-treating carrier of claim 1, wherein the carrier material is a spherical carrier material, a fiber-like carrier material, a crushed piece-like carrier material or the inner surface of a capillary.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The carrier for chromatography or pre-treating carrier of claim 1, wherein the fatty acid comprises stearic acid.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The carrier for chromatography or pre-treating carrier of claim 1, wherein the fatty acid comprises at least two different carboxylic acid compounds.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): A kit for the preparation of a carrier or a pre-treating carrier for chromatography comprising a carrier material consisting essentially of aluminum oxide, silver oxide, or aluminum oxide with silver oxide, and at least one fatty acid having 1 to 40 carbon atoms, the fatty acid being linked to the surface of the carrier material.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The carrier of claim 1, wherein the fatty acid comprises palmitic acid.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The carrier of claim 1, wherein the fatty acid comprises tricosanoic acid.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The carrier of claim 1, wherein the fatty acid comprises arachic acid.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The carrier of claim 1, wherein the fatty acid comprises myristic acid.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The carrier of claim 1, wherein the fatty acid comprises capric acid.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The carrier of claim 1, wherein a fatty acid mixture comprising tricosanoic acid and palmitic acid is utilized.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The carrier of claim 1, wherein a fatty acid mixture comprising octanoic acid and 8-hydroxy-1-octanoic acid is utilized.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): A method of purifying a compound comprising:
loading the compound onto the carrier of claim 1; and
collecting the purified compound.